

# SCOTT COUNTY KICKER.

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## ABOUT LAND MONOPOLY.

Ex-Senator William Hunter of Benton owns 60,000 to 70,000 acres of land and told the Record man the other day that he was getting tired of looking after lands and had decided to sell off a part of his holdings.—New Madrid Record.

No one man should be permitted to own so much ground as that. The earth was not created to be gobbled up and monopolized by a few shrewd men. Hunter's 60,000 acres would make 375 farms of 160 acres each. Three hundred and seventy-five farms, each owning its own farm, would be many times 375 times more benefit to the section where the land lies than Senator Hunter is. This rich man owns the land, and we suppose he acquired it by legitimate means; but there should be some legal process instituted whereby he would be compelled to sell, for no more than it is worth, his many acres, so it could be divided off into farms. This monopolizing of land by a few individuals is a drawback to any country. It should not be permitted in this so-called land of the free and independent.—Jackson Cash-Book.

In the language of Bro. Ake,—"Well, what are you going to do about it?" Everybody admits that land monopoly is wrong. Nobody will be found to defend it. But, like Bro. McGuire, no one seems to have any definite remedy. Bro. Mc. would "compel" Mr. Hunter to sell his land for "no more than it is worth."

Now, if a wild-eyed Socialist made a suggestion like that, all sorts of foolish questions would be asked, such as, "Who would fix the value?" "Has not Mr. Hunter the right to do with his own as he likes?" etc.

But what do you think of an industrial system that permits a man who does no useful work to accumulate 60,000 or 70,000 acres of land, while the man who does useful work, if he has any land, is liable to lose it?

The fact remains that the private ownership of land is wrong. Man has the right to the private ownership of the things created by man through his industry. But land, air and water were not created by man, and no man can show a title from the original creator.

"The land is mine!" sayeth the Lord, and I would be glad to have someone show either a quit claim or warranty deed from Him.

There is no private ownership of land now, in the sense that it is generally understood. The people—the government—holds the prior title and lets you use it so long as you pay a rental called taxes. If you fail to pay this rent, or tax, the government takes it from you and lets it to someone who will pay the tax.

All that is necessary to settle the land question is to remove the "middle man"—the landlord. By virtue of a man-made title, re-enforced by class laws, he is permitted to come in between the government and the tiller of the soil and demand a greater rent, or tax, than the state. Wipe him out by taking away this privilege and no one will want more land than he has use for—for there would then be no profit in mere ownership.

Mr. Hunter understands this, and keeps up with the times. He sees the unrest and remembers what happened to his ancestors, who were slave-owners and held on to their "property" too long. This may explain why he is letting go of his land.

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

The carnival company was delayed a week in getting its goods from Thebes to Jackson. For some reason the railroad company delayed hauling the company's stuff here for days, much to the annoyance and expense of the carnival people. There certainly should be no good reason for neglecting to haul the carnival company's goods to this place for so long. The public stands sorely in need of some such legislation as will make the arrogant railroad companies understand that the people have rights that they are compelled to respect.—Jackson Cash-Book.

Well, Bro. Mc., what are you going to do about it? If the legislature were to pass a necessary law in that behalf, an all-potent federal judge might enjoin its enforcement. And there you'd be!—Ironton Register.

It is encouraging to see two of the oldest and ablest Democratic editors in the Southeast beginning to look at things as they really are. I hope Bro. Mc. will not ignore Bro. Ake's question, "What are you going to do about it?"

Myrris's Stock in Trade.

It's a waste of time to attempt to reduce a hypocrite. He knows more despise in a minute than you will learn in a lifetime.

## KICKERS AND GROWLERS.

It is interesting to listen to the kickers and growlers in Benton. They just won't be happy. So far as the women are concerned, they have no voice and are not to blame, but the men voted for it. They let a little group about the court house fix up a couple of "non-political" tickets for village trustees, and then the voters takes sides and scrap over which set shall be put in. To the politicians it never matters a cuss which of their two tickets wins.

Since I did not vote for either bunch, I can sit off and chuckle as they fight it out. Up to now the stock law has been the paramount issue. But now there is sidewalk trouble. At a meeting of the board last week there were but three members present—Roland Cannon, Louis Guber and B. Hugh Smith. They ordered grandiloquent sidewalks built from the school house in the southeast of town, to W. H. Helms' residence, in the extreme north part of town—a distance of about a quarter of a mile—at the expense of property owners along the route, many of whom are very poor. There are now very good gravel or board walks from any part of town to the school house. Then they ordered walks built around the square and up the west side to the Methodist church. It is evident that the postoffice is considered of very little importance, as there is to be no walk to that institution from any direction.

Along the route are many poor people owning little homes decorated with a mortgage who can make out very well with their present walks, but "we must do something for the town." Grandiloquent walks along in front of the shacks, barns and outhouses that adorn many of our streets would look "purty."

Sunday I stepped down to the school house to see how wisely the board had acted. Among the property owners along the route selected I found several widows who are very poor. In Benton the lots are very large—four to the square. The walks ordered are to be four and six feet wide, and the probable cost from 700 to \$1,000 per running foot.

After leaving the public square, going east, we first come to the property of Mrs. Freeling, where a little over hundred feet of walk will be required. Next, Mrs. A. Townes, about 50 feet; then Mrs. Eliza Cannon, about 105 feet. G. R. Daugherty, 105 feet; Mrs. F. Steck, 105 feet; Mrs. Bollm, 105 feet; W. A. Miller, about 240 feet. Chap. Wade, 105 feet. Very few of these are really able to build, and winter is now tapping at our door, when every nickel counts.

Of the three members of the village board who ordered these walks built, two do not own a foot of property in the town—so far as I know. The third does not live in the affected district, and will not cost him a cent. It is dead easy to "govern" when you know how.

## SENSE OR SUICIDE.

T. L. Smith, 30 years old, a wholesale grocer of New Orleans, committed suicide in a New York hotel the other day. The dispatch said: "His friends attribute the suicide to despondency brought about by financial reverses." This, as every other case of its kind, was the direct result of private ownership of business. Did you ever hear of the suicide of a postal employee because there was a slump in postal business? When the industries are publicly owned and operated for the good of the whole people, there can be no financial reverses. As many goods, of any kind, as the people want, will be produced and then the workers will stop and enjoy themselves until they want more goods. There will be no bankrupts, no panics, no want, no bribery. All these come from the system of private ownership of the means of life. With public ownership people would produce and consume. They would neither buy nor sell from each other, but would produce for the public and get back from the public what they wanted equal to what they had produced. Tens of thousands of suicides went to their graves because they and others voted to have private ownership. Think of men voting for a system that was so horrible that they killed themselves to get out of it! And others voting for it who will hereafter kill themselves to get out of it. Looking at these things and seeing them not. Dull, stupid, foolish men. What do you think about it?—Appeal to Reason.

## Faith and Freedom.

Despotism may govern without faith, but liberty cannot.—De Torgue.

## THE MILLING TRUST.

The Jackson Cash-Book is of the opinion that the mill at Cape Girardeau is really afraid to sell to Jackson people because of the power of the Jackson combine. Is that what our rulers call competition, "the life of trade"? The Cash-book says the Jackson mill sells flour at the Cape. What more could it do to injure the Cape mill? The Cash-book goes on—

"The Cape Girardeau mill, as stated by the Cash-Book, gave as its reason for not selling a sack of flour to a Jackson party that the Cape County Milling Co., is so strong that it feared to compete with it. We have been told that the mill company here sells flour in the Cape. If this is true, it would seem to show that the Kicker is wrong in supposing there is an agreement existing between the Cape mills and the company here. The Cash-Book stated, doubtless, the whole truth when it said the milling company here aims to and does control the flour trade of this town, and permit no other flour to be retailed here by the merchants and grocery men. It has notified them that they must sell its flour exclusively or not sell any of it at all. For some reason or other the business houses obey the order. And yet this is said to be a free country!"

Ach, Himmel! And all these stockholders in mills and banks and trust companies are dead agin the trust and hire speakers during campaigns to go among the people to howl and rail agin the "octopus." Oh, it's a great play—and the people march and shout and vote for it until we have an "octopus" right under our nose that tells the merchant what flour he may sell and what price he must charge!

Within a few years the middle class merchants will get all they are now voting and shouting for. They who do not fall by the way-side will be permitted to act as agents or employees of the great trusts. They are but little more than this now. The little banker will also get "his" when the big central bank is established—with the government in open partnership with the Wall Street pirates. Let 'er come!

## WHY IS IT SO?

I reckon it is because I ain't so smart as some people, but, somehow, I can't understand why a thing should be a crime in one section of the country and lawful in another. As I understand the meaning of crime, it is the committing of a wrong, and how can a thing be right here and wrong yonder—with nothing more than an imaginary line between?

In reading over the proceedings of the circuit court of Mississippi county I find that numerous persons were fined \$300.00 each for having violated the local option law. Selling liquor in local option counties seems to be a very grave offense, while in other counties it is lawful and, therefore, right.

In the same court proceedings I find that Jean Marberry and Lulu Anderson were fined \$25 each for living in adultery. Now, adultery is regarded as a crime by all civilized people and even by savages. Yet according to Mississippi county justice, it is only one-twelfth as great a crime as selling a little booze.

John Goodin pled guilty to setting up a gambling device and got six months in jail. Evidently John is a poor devil. Had he been able to bet a million on the rise or fall of the stock or grain market, he might have been sent to the waterways convention. Or, if John had set up his gambling device at a church fair and "divided up," he might have been regarded as an "energetic church worker."

Either the system is crazy—or I am. It don't seem to me to be "trim." Richard Logan was fined \$100 for carrying concealed weapon, while Wm. Hess pled guilty to shooting into a dwelling and was fined only \$25.

And this is what passes for justice. Prince Dixon was fined \$25 for hunting without license—an offense equal to adultery. Suppose Daniel Boone should return to earth and meet one of these starch-collared game wardens demanding to see his license to hunt?

According to the published proceedings of the Caruthersville administration the fines for September amounted to \$215. The costs were \$222.00—of which the city attorney got \$22.75 and the marshal \$48.00. Hence it may be seen who it is that profits thru our system of so-called justice.

## A GHASTLY FARCE.

Most country people know very little about factory and sweatshop conditions in the cities where women are employed in large numbers, but some of you, perhaps, have noticed that in restaurants women work from 5 o'clock in the morning to near midnight.

In the restaurants the women do get exercise, but in the factories and sweatshops they are chained to the machine in heated foul air and poor light. To remedy this evil to some extent the legislature of Illinois and Missouri enacted laws demanding factory inspection and the limiting of the hours of women to ten hours per day.

The factory inspection law is not declared unconstitutional, for it provides fat jobs for many of the jobless, but great care is taken in the appointment of an inspector to insure his being blind to evil conditions. But the ten-hour law has been declared unconstitutional in Illinois and will be in Missouri. Of the Illinois decision the Chicago Daily Socialist says—

Chattel slavery was at least bare of some of the mocking hypocrisy that characterizes the wage system. No owner of a negro "beto" the war ever asked his runaway slave to go into court and swear that he loved servitude. No chattel slave was ever made to stand upon the auction block and proclaim it as a foundation of human freedom.

This was a refinement of cruelty that remained for twentieth century capitalism to achieve. The women of Illinois—seeing themselves unable to resist the aggressions of the greed-crazed employers, sought and obtained a law limiting the working hours of women to ten daily. That is two hours more than strong men consider sufficient. It is longer than the average craftsman worked during the sixteenth century, when man was unaided by all the wonderful machines that now multiply the power of his hands. It is longer than physicians say women should work if the life of the race is to be safeguarded.

The women of Illinois recognize these facts. The working women know them by terrible experience. So they sought and secured the ten-hour law.

Is it necessary to say all this over in order to make it plain that this law was in the interest of the working women of Illinois?

It was fought in the legislature by the Illinois Manufacturer's association. All the forces of their powerful lobby was used to prevent its passage. When this failed and it became a law in spite of their opposition, new tactics were attempted.

Here is where the ghastly farcical character of the matter appears. No employer could bring a case in court. No one but a fool could conceive of an employee in her right mind wishing to bring such a case.

Yet almost the first attempt at enforcement was met with a plea from a woman employee begging that the law be declared unconstitutional.

There could be no better proof of the slave pen character of the factory of W. E. Ritchie than the fact that it has furnished the employees who have attacked two such laws.

Truly, they are slaves indeed who fight to keep their chains. There is a provision in law as well as in common sense, that when a court believes any case brought before it is not brought in good faith it can be thrown out of court.

Does Judge Tutill believe that the poor working slave who brought this suit is able to hire the magnificent aggregation of high-priced attorneys that appear in her "defense"?

Does he really think that the Illinois Manufacturer's association is so mightily interested in the welfare of the women workers of this state that it is assisting its members to fight the law suit for those women?

If he does he is a fool. If he does not, he is a thing worse, or he would have refused to hear the case, or would have swept aside the dishonest trickery that lay behind it and rebuke those who have made a sport of the courts of justice.

He did neither of these things. He proved himself an instrument of class justice and rendered a decision that was a lie upon its face, a fraud and a falsehood and a farce in its very phraseology.

He declared the law unconstitutional, and said he did so in the interest of the working women of Illinois.

This may be contempt of court. We fear it is not.

It certainly does not express one-half the contempt we feel.

## AS HE SEES IT.

The state board has reduced the valuation of the railroad for taxation purposes. But of course the state board is under a Republican administration.—Missouri Sharpshooter.

When we see how the average political organ, either willfully or through ignorance, deceives its readers, it is not surprising that the masses know little or nothing about the conduct of public affairs.

The state board of equalization is composed of the governor, the state treasurer, the state auditor, the secretary of state and the attorney general. Of these the governor alone is a republican, while the remaining four are Democrats. And the Sharpshooter boasts that "you can always find straight out Democratic editorialists, hot off the bat, when you read the Sharpshooter."

## TARDINESS OF COURTS.

The delay of courts that are too often resorted to is being illustrated by the case of Price et al. vs. Walker, in Chicago, begun in 1865 and is set for hearing in December. It involves Chicago real estate.

It has eclipsed the case of Holladay vs. Ewing, which was pulled, shoved, motioned, petitioned, demurred and appealed through courts of Cook county for forty years. The Holladay case then died a natural death because all the litigants had passed to their accounts, and no one was left to litigate.

## HAVE IT ANALYZED.

Oscar Callier, while temporarily deranged last Monday night, made an attack on his mother, knocking her down. Medical aid was summoned and an examination showed she was not badly injured.—Perryville Republican.

What is wrong with that Perryville booze, anyway? Last week Arthur Killian got on a "temporary mental aberration" and assaulted another man's wife and now Oscar Callier got temporarily deranged and knocked his mother down. Have it analyzed.

## JUST TWO THINGS TO DO.

You know of a single worker to get rich by working for wages? Yet the wealth of the world is produced by just such workers. The fellows who get rich are those who get others to work for them and pay them a small part only of what their products are worth. Now, if the lands and machinery were the common property of the race, those who work with them would have all the products and the schemers could get none of it. Only by voting for men who believe in the common ownership of all means of production can this condition be changed so as to give the workers ALL they produce. If you would get well-to-do you must do one of two things—either quit working and go to scheming, or vote the Socialists into the control of the government. Is the right to retain what you produce worth voting for? Or do you prefer to continue to vote for men and parties that have stripped you of all you have produced and turned it over to the useless and idle class? Appeal to Reason.

We have finer churches and more tailor-made preachers nowadays than when we were a boy. But the old log cabin religion would stay with you the longest. When in those days men in jeans clothes and the women in sun bonnets, would rise up and start out on that good old fashioned hymn "Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all" it would fairly lift the rafters on the old log church and would inject more religion into a man's hide in five minutes than the biggest church organ that was ever made.—Sharpshooter.

Did you ever try salting worn out land to bring it back again in productivity? Just try a few acres of your worn out land this fall, say six or eight acres. Sow a half barrel or more to acre. Then just before freezing plow it up deep and let it lay all winter and next spring break it up again and plant it in corn or oats and see what a crop you will get. Salt is a part of plant food for the earth, and when it becomes exhausted the ground dies and fails to produce. This saline matter must be replenished before the ground can be built up to produce again.—Sharpshooter.

## WHEN THE BOAT UPSET.

Helen—Of course he clasped you in his arms when the boat upset? Hazel—No; just the opposite. Hazel—Just the opposite. What do you mean? Hazel—Why, the boat upset when he clasped me in his arms.—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

## IN A BALCONY.

"Why do you always go out on the balcony when I begin to sing, John? Can't you bear to listen to me?" "It isn't that, but I don't want the neighbors to think I'm a wife-beater."—Kansas City Journal.

## HOW IT IS WORKED.

How officialdom rewards its friends may be seen by any observer about a court house during sessions of court. Hangers-on who come to court because they have no business at home have themselves subpoenaed as witnesses or jurors in order to make expenses—and a little on the side.

Circuit court was in session in Mississippi county last week. It is a dry county and there are always many cases of violation of the local option law. The Charleston Republican tells of a man who is subpoenaed as a witness in every case—although he knows nothing about them. It says:

"He receives 50 cents per diem in each and every case. Some of them may run for many days, and yet that witness gets his stipend. It is not the fact that he gets this mite that is so much deplored as it is the condition which permits it. Our prosecuting attorney is a God-fearing christian gentleman, yet it must be conceded he can give neither a plausible nor legal reason in extenuation for the appearance of Mr. R. E. Douglas as a witness in these cases. Mr. D. is a sober, law-abiding, upright gentleman, and never buys, sells or consumes intoxicating liquors, and has not been a witness to the buying, selling or consumption of the same."

Mr. Douglas is the gentleman who turns the crank on the court house organ down there. If the statement of the paper is true, he gets his "fee" as well as the clerk who issues the subpoena and the sheriff who serves it. And the people foot the bill.

## NO JURORS FROM DUNKLIN.

It looks like Dunklin county was being discriminated against by the jury commissioner of the U. S. court to be held at Cape Girardeau this month. Though two grand jurors were selected from Bloomfield, two from Sikeston and three from Poplar Bluff, not one has been selected from the independent state of Dunklin.—Dunklin Democrat.

It is all your own fault. In the campaign your paper said that your people voted the Democratic ticket straight and read the platform afterward. Besides, your rich people are all Democrats and the federal court is a Republican affair. Only the very rich are eligible to serve as grand jurors in federal courts—and a poor devil hasn't much show, even in a circuit court.

The Democrats are to hold a "harmony" meeting in Kansas City November 19. All who attend should provide themselves with plenty of ammonia and sticking plaster. There are three factions and each claims to be "it."

## PROOF POSITIVE.

Little Ted, seven years old, was sent to the bathroom for a "good scrub" before dinner, but returned so quickly that his mother declared he couldn't possibly have washed himself. He replied—"Truly, I did, mother, and if you don't believe it you can just go and look at the towel."

## ONE ON THE JURY.

"Gentlemen of the jury," said the prosecuting barrister, "this prisoner is an unmitigated scoundrel; he acknowledges it. And yet, thanks to the wisdom of the common law, he has been given a fair trial by a jury of his peers.—Law Student's Helper.

## NOT MUCH BY THE DAY.

Lady—What! thirty-eight cents a dozen for eggs? Why that's more than three cents for one egg.

Grocer—Well, mum, you must remember that one egg is a whole day's work for one hen.—Cleveland Leader.

## THE MODERN CHILDE.

Grandpa—Would Maggie like to come into the garden and play circus with grandpa? Maggie—Well—er—I'm rather busy just now grandpa. Couldn't you go and play by yourself?—Chips.

## HE DIDN'T LAUGH.

Freddie, you shouldn't laugh out loud in the school room," exclaimed the teacher. "I didn't mean to do it," apologized Freddie. "I was smiling when all of a sudden the smile busted."—Harper's Weekly.

## 5% MONEY!

I have a client who desires to loan money on well-improved farms at five and six per cent. in South-east Missouri. Call with perfect abstract or title, on

ORREN WILSON, Attorney-at-Law, Suite 205, Himmelsberger-Harrison Building, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

## One Way to Collect.

"What a lovely collection of odd cups," exclaimed a guest, peering into the china cabinet. "Did it take you long to get so many?" "Oh, no," said the hostess, "these are samples of the sets we have had in the last two years."

## THE SOUTHEAST.

Of Prof. John H. Goodin, a former teacher of Scott county who married a Benton girl, the Jackson Cash-Book says:—"The Jackson public school, under the superintendency of Prof. Goodin, seems to show marked improvement. More careful discipline and watchfulness over the conduct of the pupils as well as a decided improvement in other respects is noted. In the child's life the teacher comes second to the parent. While at school and away from the parents' watchful eye and guiding spirit the solemn responsibility of looking after the conduct of the child as well as educating it falls upon the teacher. Our school appears now to have a most careful, conscientious and competent man at its head who is reinforced by an excellent corps of teachers.

Whether they realize it or not, it is pretty certain that the farmers' union will, sooner or later, become a part of the great international labor movement. In order to be effective, all workers will find it necessary to unite—not as farmers, or carpenters, or miners, or brick layers, but as the men and women who do the work of the world. At Poplar Bluff, last week, the farmers' union of Butler county appointed a committee to meet with the central trades and labor union of that city to bring about a closer alliance. They are also arranging to establish a public market place there so as to be able to dispose of their products direct to the consumer.

Ironton Register Brothers, how many of you feel possessed of the sovereign's freedom to express his views concerning public men and matters? Do you not feel the censorious nose a-twitching? In some cases you may not be immune through favoritism, or because you are willing to lick-spittle, or have the happy faculty of seeing only virtues in all that your way-up public servants do; but if a halt in the quickstep of official despotism is not speedily called, your time will come. Humble subservience will sometime gag you, and who shall pity your retchings.

Pemscot Argus—Jack Mann, of New Madrid county, has been experimenting with the growing of rice. He planted about one-half acre the first of May, sowing it broadcast. He at first attempted to flood the entire patch by using a pump but found this too much trouble, so he merely pumped a little water at times on a small portion of the patch. He used some manure and in the places where this was dumped, the plants grew to a height of about seven feet, while at other places they were about six feet. It is claimed that the half-acre will produce at least fifty bushels of grain.

Caruthersville Democrat—The big balloon which passed near here this city last Tuesday afternoon going south was the Centennial. It landed Thursday at Silas, Ala., 94 miles from Mobile, and 490 miles from St. Louis, where it started Monday afternoon. It broke the record for remaining in the air, being last to land, after 60 hours. The St. Louis, which landed in Minnesota, broke the long distance record, traveling 580 miles. The New York landed at Edna, Mo., shattering the world's record for high ascending, going as high as 24,200 feet.

Malden Merit—A new Missouri law that has just become effective is that of making cruelty to animals a grade felony, punishable by a term in jail or in the penitentiary at the option of the judge and jury. This law will be warmly endorsed by lovers of horses, who have protested long in vain against cruelty by brutal drivers.

Rolla Herald—It costs the government \$55,000 to make a 12-inch gun. The money that goes to pay for this gun would reclaim 1,571 acres of waste land, providing homes for 196 people. It would build thirty miles of public highway, which would add thousands of dollars of wealth to the country.

John Thompson who lived three miles west of Steele on the Coleman place disappeared on the evening of the 19th inst. He is 61 years old, 5 ft. 8 in. in height, had on jeans pants, heavy shoes, broad brim black hat, no coat. Is subject to epilepsy. Wife is anxious for information leading to his whereabouts. Wire Steele News, Steele, Mo.

Cape Girardeau is getting to be quite metropolitan. The mayor and several councilmen are under indictment, and last week Dr. Cunningham's automobile ran over John Knuckles. Next they are to have a big blowout with Taft as the clown.

A Frisco passenger train crashed into a freight at Blytheville, Ark., injuring 14 persons. T. B. Burton, of Chaffee, fireman of the passenger engine, had an ankle broken and was otherwise injured. Both engines were demolished.

Sharpshooter—It is no trouble to get the Democrat politicians together who are looking for a job but the John part of it is to get the Democrat common denominator who are not looking for jobs.

The gasoline lamp, that of Cape was smoking. A woman in a fire while tied up at the lamp.